GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2415
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD HEALTH AND MATERNAL CARE
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C&AG in its Report No. 3 of 2002 onpage 127 has brought out the fact that despite having been provided Rs.8534 crore for the development of child, their health and maternal care during 1992-99 there has been no appreciable dent on the prevailing conditions thereof;

(b) if so, whether the Government have gone into the causes thereof; and

(c) if so, details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to improve child health and maternal care under ICDS?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) The C&AG in its Report No. 3 of 2000 (and notReport No. 3 of 2002) has, inter alia, pointed out that 75 per cent of targets set for ICDS Projects have been achieved and that theimpact of the Scheme has been significant in the field of health, nutrition and educational status of the beneficiaries as brought out by the National Evaluationof ICDS(NIPCCD-1992);ICDS Survey, Evaluation and research 1997-99 (CTC-IMCD-1995); National Concurrent Evaluationof ICDS(NCAER 2000-01) etc.The Report refers to shortfalls like slow rate of decline of Infant Mortality Rate,at 72 per thousand in 1996, discrepancies in distribution of supplementary nutrition by the State Governments, less provision for supplementary nutrition by the State Governments, non-provision of therapeutic food in some States, deficiency in health input delivery etc.

(b)&(c) The stsps taken to improve the impact of the Scheme include, expansion of the Scheme; impressing upon Statesto make adequate budget provision for supplementary nutrition and to ensure registration of all eligible beneficiaries in accordance with the norms of the Scheme; decentralization of training of ICDS functionaries, strengthening of health input delivery in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welare, qualitative improvement in service delivery etc.